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Docket No. END-723

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Seth A. Forester et al.

Serial No. : 09/776,125 Art Unit: 3731

Filed : February 2, 2001 Examiner: Jessica Baxter

For : **METHODS AND DEVICES FOR DEFINING
AND MARKING TISSUE**

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Assistant Commissioner for Patents
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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.56 and in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§1.97-1.98, information relating to the above-identified application is hereby disclosed. Inclusion of information in this statement is not to be construed as an admission that this information is material as that term is defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(b).

Applicant(s) reserve(s) the right to establish the patentability of the claimed invention over any of the information provided herewith, and/or to prove that this information may not be prior art, and/or to prove that this information may not be enabling for the teachings purportedly offered.

This statement should not be construed as a representation that a search has been made, or that information more material to the examination of the present patent application does not exist.

[] In accordance with §1.97(b), since this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed either within three months of the filing date of the above-identified national

application (other than a continued prosecution application under §1.53(d)), within three months of the date of entry into the national stage of the above identified application as set forth in §1.491, or before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits of the above-identified application, or before the mailing date of a first Office Action after the filing of a request for continued examination under §1.114, no additional fee is required.

[] In accordance with §1.129(a), this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed in connection with []the first or [] second After Final Submission, therefore:

[] Statement in Accordance with §1.97(e) (attached); or
[] Please charge Deposit Account No. 10-0750/GSG/END-723 the fee of
\$180.00 as set forth in §1.17(p).

[X] In accordance with §1.97(c), this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed after the period set forth in §1.97(b) above but before the mailing date of either a Final Action under §1.113 or a Notice of Allowance under §1.311, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution and that it is accompanied by one of:

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[] In accordance with §1.97(d), this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed after the mailing date of either a Final Action under §1.113 or a Notice of Allowance under §1.311 but before the payment of the Issue Fee. Applicant(s) hereby petition(s) for consideration of this Information Disclosure Statement. Included are: Statement in Accordance with §1.97(e) as set forth below and the fee of \$180.00 as set forth in §1.17(p).

[X] Copies of each of the references listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 are enclosed herewith.

[] Copies of references listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 are enclosed herewith EXCEPT THAT:

[] In view of the voluminous nature of references [list as appropriate], and the likelihood that these references are available to the Examiner, copies are not enclosed herewith.

[] If any of the foregoing publications are not available to the Examiner, Applicant will endeavor to supply copies at the Examiner's request.

[] There are no listed references which are not in the English language.

[] The relevance of those listed references which are not in the English language is as follows:

[X] Attached are copies of search report(s) from corresponding patent application(s).

[] Attached are the following non-published pending patent applications which may be deemed relevant.

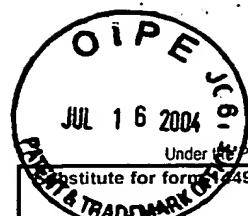
Please charge any deficiency or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 10-0750/GSG/END-723. One original and two (2) copies of this Information Disclosure Statement are enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,



Gerry S. Gressel
Reg. No. 34,342
Attorney for Applicants

Johnson & Johnson
One Johnson & Johnson Plaza
New Brunswick, NJ 08933
Phone (513) 337-3535
Date: July 14, 2004



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Sheet 1 of 2

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	U.S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document mm-dd-yyyy	Pages, Columns, Lines, where relevant passages or relevant figures appear
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)			
		3,592,185		Ephraim, et al.	07-13-1971	ALL
		4,087,791		Lemberger	05-02-1978	ALL
		4,541,438		Parker, et al.	09-17-1985	ALL
		4,735,210		Goldenberg	04-05-1988	ALL
		4,735,796		Gordon	04-05-1988	ALL
		5,041,826		Milheiser	08-20-1991	ALL
		5,101,827		Goldenberg	07-07-1992	ALL
		5,114,703		Wolf, et al.	05-19-1992	ALL
		5,127,916		Spencer, et al.	07-07-1992	ALL
		5,300,120		Knapp, et al.	04-05-1994	ALL
		5,433,751		Christel, et al.	07-18-1995	ALL
		5,437,279		Gray	08-01-1995	ALL
		5,470,308		Edwards, et al.	11-28-1995	ALL
		5,482,040		Martin, Jr.	01-09-1996	ALL
		5,496,536		Wolf	03-05-1996	ALL
		5,514,379		Weissleder, et al.	05-07-1996	ALL
		5,555,885		Chance	09-17-1996	ALL
		5,579,766		Gray	12-03-1996	ALL
		5,582,172		Papisov, et al.	12-10-1996	ALL

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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

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		Office ³	Number ⁴	KindCode ⁵				
		WO	98/09247	A1	Cothren, et al.	03-05-1998	ALL	
		WO	98/52617	A2	McIntire, et al.	11-26-1998	ALL	

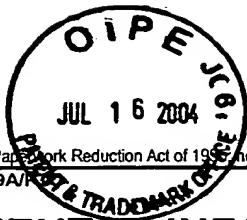
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		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)			
		5,595,177		Mena, et al.	01-21-1997	ALL
		5,674,288		Knapp, et al.	10-07-1997	ALL
		5,697,902		Goldenberg	12-16-1997	ALL
		5,716,407		Knapp, et al.	02-10-1998	ALL
		5,725,578		Knapp, et al.	03-10-1998	ALL
		5,732,704		Thurston, et al.	03-31-1998	ALL
		5,776,093		Goldenberg	07-07-1998	ALL
		5,776,094		Goldenberg	07-07-1998	ALL
		5,803,913		Khalkhali, et al.	09-08-1998	ALL
		5,810,806		Ritchart, et al.	09-22-1998	ALL
		5,855,609		Knapp	01-05-1999	ALL
		5,857,463		Thurston, et al.	01-12-1999	ALL
		5,868,778		Gershony, et al.	02-09-1999	ALL
		5,895,640		Khalkhali	04-20-1999	ALL
		5,899,865		Chance	05-04-1999	JUL 19 2004
		5,913,857		Ritchart, et al.	06-22-1999	TECHNOLOGY CENTER 3700
		5,970,986		Bolz, et al.	10-26-1999	ALL
		5,977,431		Knapp, et al.	11-02-1999	ALL

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Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document			Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document mm-dd-yyyy	Pages, Columns, Lines, where relevant passages or relevant figures appear	T ⁶
		Office ³	Number ⁴	KindCode ⁵				
		WO	99/25248	A1	Carroll	05-27-1999		
		WO	99/46284	A2	Rajotte, et al.	09-16-1999		

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
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Page 1 of 1

<i>Application Number</i>	09/776,129
<i>Filing Date</i>	February 2, 2001
<i>First Named Inventor</i>	Seth A. Foerster et al.
<i>Group Art Unit</i>	3731
<i>Examiner Name</i>	Jessica Baxter
<i>Attorney Docket Number</i>	END-723

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Sheet 1 of 3

Application Number	09/776,125
Filing Date	February 2, 2001
First Named Inventor	Seth A. Foerster et al.
Group Art Unit	3731
Examiner Name	Jessica Baxter
Attorney Docket Number	END -723

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		Kind Code ² /Number (if known)	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document			
		Re. 35,391	Brauman		12-03-1996	ALL
		3,194,239	Sullivan		01-16-1963	ALL
		4,298,998	Naficy		11-10-1981	ALL
		4,347,234	Wahlig et al.		08-31-1982	ALL
		4,365,572	Gullemin et al.		11-02-1982	ALL
		4,511,653	Play et al.		04-16-1985	ALL
		4,703,108	Silver et al.		10/27/1987	ALL
		5,061,281	Mares et al.		10-29-1991	ALL
		5,085,629	Golberg et al.		02-04-1992	ALL
		5,120,802	Mares et al.		06-09-1992	ALL
		5,127,916	Spencer et al.		07-07-1992	ALL
		5,192,300	Fowler		03-19-1993	ALL
		5,195,988	Haaga		03-23-1993	ALL
		5,274,074	Tang et al.		12-28-1993	ALL
		5,433,751	Christel et al.		07-18-1995	ALL
		5,470,308	Edwards et al.		11-28-1995	ALL
		5,514,379	Weissleder et al.		05-07-1996	ALL
		5,522,896	Prescott		06-04-1996	ALL
		5,824,081	Knapp et al.		10-20-1998	ALL
		5,869,080	McGregor et al.		02-09-1999	ALL
		5,922,024	Janzen et al.		07-13-1999	ALL
		6,066,325	Wallace et al.		05-23-2000	ALL
		6,214,045	B1 Corbitt, Jr. et al.		04-10-2001	ALL
		2004/0024304	A1 Foerster et al.		02-05-2004	ALL
		2001/0034528	A1 Foerster et al.		10-25-2001	ALL
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Sheet 2 of 3

<i>Application Number</i>	09/776,125
<i>Filing Date</i>	February 2, 2001
<i>First Named Inventor</i>	Seth A. Foerster et al.
<i>Group Art Unit</i>	3731
<i>Examiner Name</i>	Jessica Baxter
<i>Attorney Docket Number</i>	END -723

OTHER PRIOR ART - NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner's Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITOL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published	T ²
		WANG HOM-LAY et al. "Evaluation of an Absorbable Collagen Membrane in Treating Class II Furcation Defects"; pp 1029-1036. November 1994.	
		BROPHY M. REGINA et al. "Biodegradable Polyester Polymers as Drug Carriers". Pp 1-25.	
		SWARBRICK JAMES and BOYLAN JAMES. "Bioabsorbable Polymers." <i>The Encyclopedia of Pharmaceutical Technology</i> . Vol. 1. Absorption of Drugs to Bioavailability of Drugs and Bioequivalence. New York and Basel. Pp 465-476.	
		PARK, KINAM; SHALABY, WALEED AND PARK HAESUN. "Biodegradable Hydrogels for Drug Delivery." <i>Purdue University School of Pharmacy</i> . Pp. 13-19.	
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		CUTRIGHT, DUANE E. et al. " Degradation Rates of Polymers and Copolymers of Polylactic and Polyglycolic Acids." U.S. Army Institute of Dental Research, Walter Reed Army Medical Center, Washington, D. C. Pp. 142-151	
		KULKARNI, R. K. PHD. Et al.; "Polylactic Acid for Surgical Implants." <i>Arch Surgery</i> . Vol. 93, Nov. 1966 Pp. 839-843.	
		KULKARNI, R. K. PHD. Et al.; " Biodegradable Poly(lactic acid) Polymers." U.S. Army Institute of Dental Research, Walter Reed Army Medical Center, Washington, D. C. (1971) Vol. 5, Pp. 169-181	
		CHASIN, MARK AND LANGER, ROBERT. - LEWIS, DANNY H. "Biodegradable Polymers as Drug Delivery Systems." Controlled Release of Bioactive Agents from Lactide/Glycolide Polymers Ch. 1 Pp -41 (1990). And BOGDANSKY, SIMON "Natural Polymers as Drug Delivery Systems." Pp. 231-259.	
		HUANG, SAMUEL J. et al.; "Hydrophilic-Hydrophobic Biodegradable Polymers: Release characteristics of Hydrogen-Bonded, Ring-Containing Polymer Matrices. (1994) <i>Biomaterials</i> (1994, Vol. 15 No. 15 Pp. 1243-1247.	
		BECKER, PAUL L. " Comparison of Antibiotic Release from Polymethylmethacrylate Beads and Sponge Collagen." <i>Journal of Orthopaedic Research</i> . (1994) Vol. 12, No. 5.	
		MACKINNON, SUSAN E. "Clinical Nerve Reconstruction with a Bioabsorbable Polyglycolic Acid Tube." <i>Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery</i> , March 1990.	
		NAKAMURA, T., et al. " New Bioabsorbable Pledgets and Non-Woven Fabrics Made from Polyglycolide (PGA) for Pulmonary Surgery: Clinical Experience." <i>Thoracic Cardiovascular Surgeons</i> . (1990) Pp. 81-85.	
		TONG, XIAO-JIE, et al.; "Sciatic Nerve Regeneration Navigated by Laminin-Fibronectin Double Coated Biodegradable Collagen Grafts in Rats." <i>BRAIN RESEARCH</i> 663 (1994) Pp. 155-162.	
		MATSUSUE, YOSHITAKA, et al.; "In Vitro and In Vivo Studies on Bioabsorbable Ultra-High-Strength Poly (L-Lactide) Rods." <i>Journal of Biomedical Materials Research</i> (1992) Vol. 26, Pp. 1553-1567.	
		HUTMACHER, DIETMAR. "A Review of Material Properties of Biodegradable and Bioreversible Polymers and Devices for GTR and GBR Applications." <i>The International Journal of Oral & Maxillofacial Implants</i> . (1996) Vol. 11 No 5. Pp. 667-678.	
Examiner Signature		Date Considered	



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